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## **GLORIA MOLINA TO PARTNER WITH SOUTH GATE ON LOS ANGELES RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT**

### **6.75-Acre Site to be Converted into River Access Park**

LOS ANGELES (May 13, 2008)—Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina announced that plans are moving forward to revitalize a 6.75-acre swath of land in the City of South Gate along the lower Los Angeles River and convert it into a river access park, complete with plans for habitat restoration and improved storm water treatment.

“We’re proud to be partnering with the City of South Gate on this river revitalization project,” Molina said. “South Gate is situated in one of the most densely populated sections of the county, where residents—especially apartment dwellers—often rely on public parks to take the place of private backyards. So it’s important that we take advantage of opportunities like this one, where the county and the city leverage each other’s dollars to create park space that is direly needed—and which voters across the county have overwhelmingly indicated they want more of.”

At today’s meeting of the county Board of Supervisors, Molina and her colleagues approved a \$650,000 allocation of county funds for this project; \$450,000 originates from the First District’s Proposition A parks bond monies and the remaining \$200,000 comes from Rivers & Mountains Conservancy grant funds. These dollars will be combined with the City of South Gate’s \$1.5 million Proposition A allocation to pay for all land acquisition costs.

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In addition, North East Trees—a non-profit river restoration organization—has committed to an additional \$500,000 for design costs on this project and to creating a storm water clean-up plan for the site. The City of South Gate has committed to providing any future programming costs at this site, though the cost is still undetermined. Other partners include the Trust for Public Land, which assisted in acquiring the 6.71-acre property, and the Watershed Conservation Authority—which will handle operations on the property once the project is finished.

Land acquisition should be complete by late August 2008. The South Gate river access park is located at the Los Angeles River near the 710 Freeway/Imperial Highway interchange in South Gate.

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